

Vol. 17, No. 10

October 2002

# FRONT RANGE FLYER

302nd Airlift Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

*Up, Up & Away ...*



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Senior Master Sgt. George Anderson and Master Sgt. Brent Traicoff, 302nd Airlift Wing Recruiters, really go above and beyond with pilot Ken Paulk in the 302nd AW Recruiting sponsored balloon in this year's Colorado Springs Balloon Classic.



Photo by  
Lt. Col. Clancy Preston

## UTA Schedule

### Next UTA: Oct. 5-6

November 2-3

December 7-8

January 11-12

The next UTA schedule is printed in more detail on page 14. The **Front Range Flyer** is mailed each month to all 302nd Airlift Wing members on file with the Military Personnel Flight. If you are not receiving your magazine, check with your orderly room or administration section to ensure your address is correct.



# Welcome home!

By Col. Richard R. Moss  
302nd Airlift Wing Commander

As you're reading this, the wing is headed down the final stretch to demobilization. Many of you are returning from Germany, others of you are going home after filling in the ranks here, and some of you are returning from the four corners of the earth, coming from places you can't even tell your family and friends about.

It's been a long and eventful year; now it's time to unwind and begin to return to normal. The demobilization ceremony Oct. 2 will officially mark the turning of the corner back into life as citizen airmen. I hope you're able to attend.

As you make the transition, I encourage you to spend time with those close to you. They sacrificed a lot while you were performing the missions the President entrusted us with, and without their support, much of what we did would not have

been possible.

Most of the 550-plus activated people have not been here for nearly a year. Remember those things called UTAs? You may see some new faces in your shop, and you'll probably have lots of catching up to do with your friends and co-workers. It's time to get back to our jobs as reservists – training and preparing for the next time our commander-in-chief needs us.

Some members of the wing are still activated, some even still in harm's way. I ask that you continue to keep them in your thoughts.

My thanks to each and every one of you for your hard work this past year; you made our successes possible. The efforts that led up to Oct. 2 make the demobilization even sweeter!



## Air Force Chief of Staff speaks to AEF culture

"We have come a long way in the difficult process of defining, refining, organizing, deploying and employing our Air and Space Expeditionary Force concept. Now I need your personal attention and support in two absolutely vital areas. The first area is the adoption of the AEF expeditionary mindset across our Air Force. The second is embracing our doctrinal precepts in the organization and employment of air and space power."

-General John P. Jumper-



# War on terrorism remains reserve priority

By Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III  
Commander of Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON - The response by Air Force reservists to the war on terrorism has been spectacular. Across nearly every career field at locations around the world, reservists have demonstrated exceptional professionalism and devotion to duty.

Some are being asked to extend their mobilizations for as much as 12 additional months. For them and the rest of the Air Force Reserve Command, the war on terrorism is our top priority and will remain so for the foreseeable future.

It is true the Air Force is in the process of returning the Air and Space Expeditionary Force to a more steady-state footing, and we are continuing to demobilize reservists where and when we can.

As we support Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, our commitments to AEF aviation and support have increased to approximately three times those of pre-9/11. We expect that to continue to drop significantly but remain about 30 percent more than what we were doing before the terrorist attacks.

Unfortunately, not everything supporting the war can be accomplished with volunteers. The Air Force is extending for a second year more than 4,800 mobilized reservists so it can realign manpower for the war to a more predictable, steady-state process. As soon as possible, our people will be released from active duty.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper regularly thanks you – the men and women of the Air Force Reserve – for your commitment

to the war on terrorism. He knows what you are doing for the country, the sacrifices you are making for the war, and how service affects you, your families and employers.

As reservists, we never get used to missing anniversaries, birthdays and other special occasions. We know what it is like to forfeit a family vacation so we can serve our country. We know what service before self is all about.

It has been more than a year since the terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and killed thousands of innocent Americans in New York City, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. We cannot and should not forget how different those events were compared to the attack on Pearl Harbor 60 years ago. The world is a different, a profoundly more cruel place when "soldiers" attack civilians instead of other soldiers.

As you go about your military duties, I ask that you keep the memory of 9/11 close to your heart. When a task seems too much, remember where we have been as a nation and why it is important to continue the fight. Ask yourself these questions: "If not I, then who?" "If not now, then when?"

Thank you so very much for what you do for our Air Force Reserve, our Air Force and our nation. God's Blessings to all and God Bless America. (AFRC News Service)



Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III

# Space time is war time every day

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.- High above Afghanistan unseen Air Force satellites tirelessly emit a steady electronic stream of data. Working on the ground half a world away, often unseen as well, Air Force members convert that data into useful information, providing commanders updates on enemy troop movements, the latest weather forecasts and more.

Like many other elements of the Air Force's arsenal, command and control satellites are now in high demand, and Air Force reservists in the 310th Space Group at Schriever Air Force Base have stepped in to help keep those satellites working in the war on terrorism.

At one point, 82 members of the unit had been called up to serve on active duty since September 2001. As of Aug. 20, that number had dropped to 65 mobilized reservists.

"The 310th has been called on to assist with missions that cover the globe, ensuring the United States and its allies always have precision navigation, weather data, advance early warning of threats and reliable communications links," said Lt. Col. Roscoe Griffin, 310th SG commander.

Most of the group's reservists work in satellite command and control here and at five other stateside bases and two locations overseas. Others work in security forces and intelligence and information operations. Since the war began, Reserve satellite operators have made more than 1,170 contacts with satellites. For the most part, these contacts have been to alter satellite orbits or receive data. The majority of satellite operations reservists called-up are performing this mission.

Their relationships with the active-duty units they are attached to are well-established, dating back to the group's origin in 1997. Commanders knew the 310th SG's reservists by name before the war started and are happy to have their help now.

"Active-duty commanders are very glad to have our reservists and they are always commenting on their professionalism, both in space operations and security forces missions," Griffin said. "They already knew who they wanted for the call-up. It wasn't a surprise."

According to Griffin, this helps to explain why Air Force Space Command was among

the first Air Force major commands to submit requests for the reservists they wanted to mobilize. The nature of the AFSPC mission makes them the vanguards of any military action, said Griffin.

"When they say space is first in the fight, they're right," Griffin said.

But even those space operations reservists who haven't been called up are taking part in the war.

"In the space mission, you're doing your wartime mission every day," Griffin said,



*A NAVSTAR Global Positioning System satellite launch aboard an Air Force Delta II. (Photo courtesy of NASA)*

"and so we're helping active-duty units operate those space assets over areas of interest all the time. Whenever active-duty satellite operations commanders need us, we're there for them whether we're called-up or not."

One mission unique to the 310th belongs to the 527th Space Aggressor Squadron. As the unit name implies, this squadron exists to help protect satellites by discovering potential threats and finding ways to defeat those threats.

Since September 2001, the 527th SAS has been busy developing ways to protect Air Force space assets and the weapon systems they link to, including the Predator unmanned aerial vehicle. According to Griffin, the members of the 527th SAS have

discovered vulnerabilities in these systems and helped implement fixes.

Squadron members have also supplied instructors at the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape training school at Fairchild AFB, Wash., with details on how downed pilots can enhance their chance of being rescued.

While reservists who operate satellites, protect satellites and analyze the data they provide have seen an increase in their workload, that increase has been modest so far, according to Griffin. But the impact on the security forces members assigned to the group has been greater.

Almost immediately after the announcement of partial mobilization last fall, all of the group's security forces people were activated to do their mission full-time.

"Three-fourths of our SF people have been called-up and deployed overseas while the rest have been mobilized and are serving stateside at various AFSPC bases," Griffin said.

Their mission is to protect ground-based space assets around the world, "from Thule, Greenland to Guam," according to Griffin. "They have to be prepared for a variety of climates and challenges," he said.

Early on the group began to work with AFSPC officials to refine the security forces' overseas rotation schedule.

"We made an agreement with Space Command that our security forces people who are not deployed overseas will rotate back to a base near their home" Griffin said. "This will allow them to commute to their duty station from home."

"AFSPC is trying to help our security forces people by assigning them to 90 days overseas, 180 days home, 90 days overseas," Griffin said. "This is certainly better than 90 days overseas, 180 days temporary duty somewhere else in the U.S., then 90 days overseas again," he said.

With the group's high operations tempo and the stress on families and employers, Griffin is paying close attention to morale. While he has noted some anxiety, the majority of the group is upbeat, "glad to know that they are valued, that they are needed and that when the balloon goes up, they can participate," he said. (AFRC News Service)

# Reservist wins annual AFSPC award

By 2nd Lt. Tracey Nicks  
19th Space Operations Squadron

For the first time ever, a reservist is being recognized by Air Force Space Command for an award primarily given to active duty enlisted personnel.

Master Sgt. Michael D. Cook was chosen by a board of four active duty chiefs as the 2001 Senior Noncommissioned Officer Enlisted Space Operator of the Year, marking the first time a reservist has been selected for this prestigious AFSPC award.

Cook, a 19th Space Operations Squadron Global Positioning System Satellite System Operator, was credited with preventing the loss of a healthy satellite vehicle employed by CENTCOM planners for GPS guided munitions, saving the military approximately \$85 million.

He is also responsible for researching, compiling, and submitting comments for the technical requirements document on the Launch and early orbit, Anomaly resolution



Master Sgt. Michael D. Cook

and Disposal operations system, a critical component for future GPS operations.

"It's an honor to have won this award,"

said Cook, "I'm really just doing my job as I see it needs to be done."

Cook's operational expertise has directly contributed to the unit's record setting 88% Highly Qualified evaluation rating for mission ready crewmembers; all four of his trainees have earned the Highly Qualified ratings on their satellite system operator evaluations. His knowledge is invaluable, as the 19 SOPS will be primarily responsible for training their active duty associate unit counterparts on the new LADO system, slated to go online in fiscal year 2004.

Cook was nominated for the award by Capt. Mike Low, 19 SOPS LADO section chief.

"Because of the leadership and guidance of Capt. Low, I continually strive for excellence," says Cook. "His ambition and optimistic attitude keep me focused."

All active duty and reserve enlisted space operators are eligible for the award, which is given for superior performance, outstanding professional skill, and leadership ability.

## Editorial

# Don't be afraid to dream; don't forget to pray

By Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Wilson  
Senior Chaplain

Thirty-three-year-old truck driver Larry Walters had a dream. He wanted to fly!

Larry came up with a plan; he went to the local Army-Navy surplus store and bought 45 weather balloons and several tanks of helium. Rigging each balloon to his favorite aluminum lawn chair he collected what he considered the necessary flight equipment: his camera, a C B radio, a parachute, a pellet gun to regulate the altitude by shooting out some of the balloons as need be and a bottle of pop.

Dubbing his helter skelter aircraft the *Inspiration One*, he was ready to go. Larry never imagined what would happen next as he launched from San Pedro, Calif. on a clear summer's morning.

The *Inspiration One* went higher and further than Larry had ever supposed, a shocking 16,000 feet up in the air, and even more noticeably into the landing approaches of Los Angeles International Airport. At least two commercial pilots - one from TWA and one with Delta, had a hard time believing what they saw, but duty-driven, they radioed the Federal Aviation Administration about this rather odd unidentified flying object. Immediately the airport was shut down. All arriving flights were diverted and no departures were permitted.

Shivering in the high altitude, Larry was on his radio too, frantically calling for help! Using his trusty pellet gun Larry

struggled to bring the ill-fated *Inspiration One* back to terra firma in a timely yet appropriately slow rate of descent.

Unfortunately the balloons became entangled in power lines, blacking out parts of Long Beach for 20 minutes. TV crews and a large crowd of curious onlookers, not to mention a less than mildly irritated Los Angeles police department and fire rescue squads, anxiously greeted Larry.

Larry Walters gets an "A" for initiative but an "F" for accurately forecasting the outcome of his actions.

The Bible offers us this insight, "Plans go wrong with too few counselors; many counselors bring success. Everyone enjoys giving good advice, and how wonderful it is to be able to say the right thing at the right time!" in Proverbs 15:22-23. Here at the 302nd we have a wealth of insight and experience. Our willingness to ask questions, to listen carefully and to work together is crucial to our overall success. If in doubt, why not ask? Working together we can accomplish more than working apart. Teamwork multiplies our effectiveness.

By the way, when Larry was asked if he would ever do it again he sheepishly responded, "Since I was 13 years old, I've dreamed of going up in the clear blue sky in a weather balloon. By the grace of God I have fulfilled my dream - but I wouldn't do this again for anything!" Don't be afraid to dream, but don't forget to pray and seek good advice. It can make all the difference in the voyage of life; just ask Larry.



# Turning ‘em around faster

*Maintenance schedule keeps more planes flying during activation*



*Top: Senior Airman Jon Gatwood works on an aircraft engine and (below) Tech. Sgt. Robert Watkins performs electrical tests as part of the plane's scheduled isochronal maintenance. During the wing's activation, maintenance personnel turned a plane around every 21 days, nearly half the normal time, to keep up with mission needs.*



**Story and photos by Capt. Laurie Arellano**  
*Front Range Flyer*

A maze of yellow ladders and catwalks surrounds the “queen,” facilitating a flurry of activity. Some are deep into the engines, some are crawling into nooks and crannies, and some seem to hover from above.

For the 302nd Maintenance Squadron, the phrase ‘a beehive of activity’ has never been as appropriate as it has been during the 302nd Airlift Wing’s activation. They have been busier than ever providing mission-capable aircraft for the numerous deployments and firefighting missions the wing has supported these past nine months.

“When we got activated last year, Colonel Moss wanted to have as many fully mission capable aircraft available as possible at any given time, so he directed that only one aircraft be in isochronal maintenance, rather than the typical two or three,” said Master Sgt. Brian Garcia, 302nd Maintenance Squadron isochronal maintenance supervisor.

Garcia said to support the new direction, they did some creative applications within their processes. Thanks to the increase in manning the activation brought, the isochronal maintenance shop went from one shift to two. With only one aircraft in isochronal maintenance at a time, they were able to focus their manpower, dropping to 21 days the length of time the plane was out of service. All the required maintenance was completed in about half the time.

“Our goal is to have the aircraft ready to fly all the time,” Garcia said. “What we do in here benefits the unit because we impact what the aircraft does the rest of the year.”

Garcia said one of the biggest challenges was overcoming the lack of experience in many of the reservists. He said it’s tough for reservists to stay proficient when they don’t do the job every day. Once activated, however, they quickly made up for lost time.



*Above: an airplane stands in the hangar, surrounded by ladders and catwalks while it undergoes scheduled periodic maintenance.*



*Heath Orloske takes a close look at an engine during the aircraft's annual isochronal maintenance.*

"They worked very hard to learn the job fast," Garcia said. "They put in long hours and even weekends."

He said once they were up and running, maintaining the maintenance schedule while managing back to back rotations that nearly depleted his manpower proved to be a daunting task.

"It was tough between deployments because manning was so low," he said.

Garcia said keeping more planes available and knowing the

planes are leaving their care and headed to locations around the world for vital missions is a source of pride for all the members of the squadron.

Col. Richard Moss, 302nd Airlift Wing commander, said while it was a trying time for the wing, the teamwork demonstrated by the members of the isochronal maintenance shop shows that reservists truly are the cream of the crop.

"They did a tremendous job," said Moss. "Without their hard work we couldn't have accomplished the missions."

As the wing winds down towards demobilization, the maintenance squadron will resume its normal schedule, typically having more than one plane down for annual maintenance with approximately a six-week turnaround per aircraft. However, Garcia said the squadron and the wing will continue to benefit from the training and experiences the members of isochronal maintenance gained during the activation period.

"It allowed the reservists to see the entire process from start to finish," said Garcia. "Everyone has a better understanding of the system and job requirements."

Col. Michael O'Halloran, 302nd Logistics Group commander, said the members of the squadron overcame many obstacles and absolutely exceeded leadership's expectations.

"All the shops showed an immense amount of teamwork," said O'Halloran. "Everyone came together and put a lot of effort into making it work."



*Above: Tech. Sgt. Enrique Gonzales works on the wing of the aircraft from above while (right) Staff Sgt. Brian Reed removes a pin from a leading edge. Both are members of the 302nd Maintenance Squadron. During the wing's activation, the squadron's maintenance schedule was changed so only one plane was down for maintenance at a time, which kept more planes flying for the many taskings received during the past year.*





# Recruiters, 'aim high' at



Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston

**By Lt. Col. Clancy Preston**

*Front Range Flyer*

If you ask Senior Master Sgt. George Anderson about his line of work, he may tell you it can be a real gas... well, at least on Labor Day weekend that was the case. Anderson, a senior recruiter for the 302nd Airlift Wing, and his lead recruiter, Master Sgt. Brent Traicoff, are responsible for the 302nd AW sponsoring a balloon at the annual Balloon Classic in Colorado Springs this year, making the logo "Above and Beyond" more than just words for a recruiting campaign.

Opening ceremonies began before the light of day Aug. 31 at Memorial Park with more than 100 balloons being readied for flight and the air thick with the smells from the concession stands serving coffee, funnel cakes, doughnuts, as well as other tempting smells afloat. The master of ceremonies voice crackled in the background, verbally walking the balloon enthusiasts through the day's events while large noisy fans began inflating the flat heaps of fabric lying on the ground into shapes that would soon monopolize the sky.

Anderson, Traicoff and Col. Richard Moss, 302nd Airlift Wing commander, did on-the-job-training as crewmembers for the 302nd Airlift Wing's assigned sponsor balloon, the *Angel de Milagros y Suenoz*, from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Flightline Freddie, recruiting's inflatable, can't-miss-him-in-a-crowd recruiter, made an appearance, very much dwarfed by the balloons surrounding him yet being a crowd-pleaser for photo opportunities with the children.

Anderson offered the wing commander and me the first chance to fly



Courtesy Photo, 302nd AW Recruiting



Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston



# and fly high in recruiting

onboard the balloon displaying the Air Force Reserve Command banner. With an hour of dead silence interrupted with loud dragon-like sounds made by the burner, we sailed the skies of southern Colorado Springs. Shifting winds kept landing locations “up-in-the-air” as Ken Paulk, owner and pilot of the balloon, pointed out several good locations that floated by, so when a quiet neighborhood came into view, with little car traffic and few electrical wires to hamper landing, Paulk began venting the envelope for a quick descent to the street. Using the air brakes of a soft-branched tree and the ground-crew that had been chasing the balloon in a pickup truck, the basket met the ground in a solid landing.

Quickly, the neighborhood was alive with people, going back into their homes for cameras to document the event.

Using up the remaining gas in the tanks, Paulk kept the balloon inflated so children could get in the basket and share in the day’s fun. Moms and dads came out with cameras.

This balloon adventure is just an example of the public exposure the 302nd AW recruiters pursue in an effort to raise people’s awareness about the opportunities in the Air Force Reserve. Sometimes Flightline Freddie gets his big foot in the door, or sometimes it’s an Air Force Reserve Command sponsored rally car driving up Pike’s Peak that introduces someone to the possibilities of wearing the blue suit.

Although the Balloon Classic is the largest one-time event the recruiters have sponsored this year, they are also heavily involved with the Sky Sox, the Colorado Springs’ Triple A baseball team. The AFRC-sponsored rally car participated in the Pike’s Peak Road Rally held in late June.

So, whether it’s baseball, rally cars, or crewing balloons, the 302nd AW recruiters are working above and beyond for the Air Force Reserve.

*Clockwise from upper left, Flightline Freddie with the Air Force Reserve sponsored balloon. Maj. Greg Prestgard and Maj. Cynthia Rivera-Prestgard pal around with Flightline Freddie. Flightline Freddie checks out the Air Force Reserve sponsored car which competed in this year’s Pikes Peak International Hill Climb.*

*(Clockwise from front center) Lori Anderson, Mary Traicoff, Senior Master Sgt. George Anderson, Staff Sgt. Brent Traicoff, and Chief Master Sgt. Jeff Grzecka climb aboard the Air Force Reserve sponsored balloon. The Colorado Springs Sky Sox mascot prepares to take a swing, with Flightline Freddie as third base coach.*

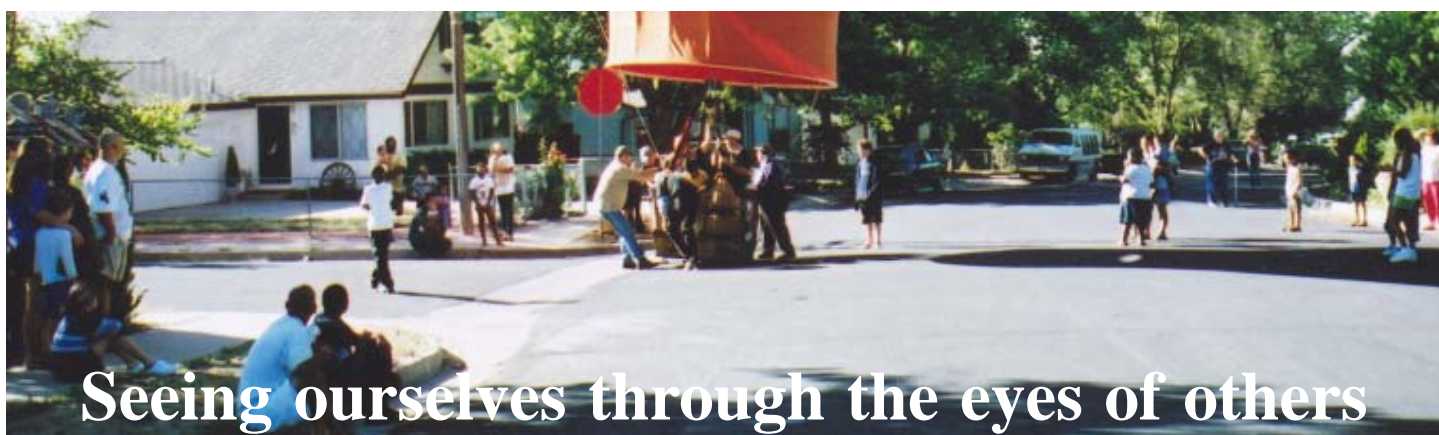


Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston



Courtesy Photo, 302nd AW Recruiting





# Seeing ourselves through the eyes of others

Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston

*Editor's note: Quietly standing to the side, a young man equipped with pad and pencil hurriedly put his thoughts down on his paper. Song Chong, a junior at Sierra High School in Colorado Springs, knew this was a special day, one they will always remember on the streets of Fernwood and El Moro. Chong is the activities writer for his high school paper, The Maverick.*

**By Song Chong**  
Sierra High School

A hot air balloon came to a crashing halt on the dusty tar pavement between the crossing of Fernwood and El Moro midmorning on the last Saturday in August.

The purpose of landing in the street was to share the ballooning experience with the community of Colorado Springs, but Ken Paulk mainly landed for the children.

A blue Ford F-250 sped at 20 miles per hour arriving at the scene carrying members of the chase team underneath the balloon, tracking its course above the city.

At the helm of the Angel de Milagros y Suenoz, which means Angels of Miracles and Dreams, was pilot Ken Paulk, a New Mexico veteran of hot air ballooning. Paulk, out of breath, took part in shouting out orders to the chase team.

On the trip with Paulk's crew were two Air Force Reserve officers, Col. Richard Moss, 302nd Airlift Wing commander, and Maj. Clancy Preston, chief of public affairs.

"There is no stress in doing this event. It's very relaxing floating across the skies, it was tremendous, but I prefer the C-130 aircraft because I can control the way it goes and I'm in command," Moss said.

Working with Paulk and Elisa

Bustamante, two local Colorado Springs residents, Alice and Ken Scott, and Air Force Reserve Recruiters

Senior Master Sgt. George Anderson and Master Sgt. Brent Triacoff, were members of a team.

The reaction of the neighborhood was total confusion. Men, women, and especially children, stumbled to their feet during the early midmorning to view the humongous contraption that had landed on the street. Many children had their eyes glued to the bright fabric of the balloon..

Paulk was giving rides on board the gondola basket trying to ease the tension between the curious children who had appeared out of their homes to view the balloon that had landed.

When the balloon landed, crew chief, co-owner of the balloon and a qualified pilot herself, Bustamante was there giving orders to the chase team to start deflating the balloon, due to the fact that the fabric was tangled upon a light post.

Paulk and Bustamante came to Colorado Springs from New Mexico to participate in the annual Colorado Springs Balloon Classic. The 26-year-old event held at Memorial Park is the largest event during Labor Day weekend in Colorado Springs.

"This has absolutely been fun. This is also a way to get new people on the crew and share new experiences with each other," Paulk said.



**Song Chong**



Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston



# Distinguished Native Americans recognized

**By Tech. Sgt. Glenda Nash-Kirton**

*302nd Airlift Wing Military Equal Opportunity office*

In celebration of Native American History month, we recognize the commitment, culture and contributions that persons of Native American descent have made to enhance our great nation. The Department of Defense, in accordance with DoD Directive 1350.2, defines a Native American as a person having origins in the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition. Although those Native Americans making outstanding contributions are too numerous to list, I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to some of the more familiar persons or groups of Native American ancestry in whom we should take great pride.

Ben Reifel, a Sioux Indian, was a Congressman from South Dakota. His early vocational endeavors included serving his home reservation as farm agent and an eventual return as the first Native American superintendent. He served during World War II and holds a rank of lieutenant colonel in the Reserve. Coming from a family where his mother spoke little English, he and his brother Alexander, a civil engineer, and Albert, a doctor specializing in internal medicine with the U.S. Veterans Administration, form a family worthy of emulation.

Annie Dodge Wauneka is the daughter of the famed Navajo Chief, Chee Dodge. This tireless woman was the first Indian woman given the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award. The citation accompanying it tells only a minute part of her life story: "First woman elected to the Navajo Tribal Council; by her long crusade for improved healthy programs, she has helped dramatically to lessen the menace of disease among her people and to improve their way of

life." She was honored by CBS television commentator Walter Cronkite, who devoted one of his world-famous 20th Century documentary films to her work in education, health and better living for the Navajos, despite years of opposition from those who were tradition-minded in their approaches to living in the fast-changing world about them. Her philosophy was summed up in one of her frequently quoted remarks to her people: "Send your children to school. Learn new ways. What is good for the white man's children is good for ours. Prejudice and tradition must be overcome."

Historically, persons of Native American culture have also made many positive contributions to the armed services. An example, well known to us all, is Will Rogers, Jr., a Cherokee Indian, elected to the 78th U.S. Congress from California from January 1943 until May 1944. He is an actor, humorist and newspaper publisher as well as a member of the California legislature at other times and served in World War II. He received a B.A. from Stanford University and is presently Special Assistant to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

These three distinguished Americans have made impressive contributions to this country. During this 2002 Native American History Month, take a moment to reflect and appreciate the contributions made by Native Americans – the first Americans. Theirs is a rich heritage and a continuing legacy.

## **American Indian Heritage Month**



AFNEWS

## ***Reservist's need-to-know on medical benefits***

**By Rudi Williams**

*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON - When some reservist and guardsmen who are sick, injured and suffering from some disease return from deployments or training, they don't know which way to turn for medical care.

That disturbs Kathleen Woody, director of DoD Reserve Affairs' Reserve Medical Readiness and Programs. Because, she said, not knowing what their benefits are can be a big problem for reserve component personnel.

Woody spoke at a seminar entitled "Post-Deployment Care Risk Communication and Terrorism: New Clinical Approaches."

Active duty service members have ac-

cess to military treatment facilities whereas healthcare providers for reserve component personnel are in the civilian community. Therefore, reservists' exposure to military healthcare is limited, Woody pointed out.

A critical information pipeline is needed to ensure that reserve component personnel are educated about their medical benefits before and after they're deployed, she said. "In their post-deployment, they may not be sensitive to the fact that whatever symptoms they're manifesting might be related to their deployment," said Woody, an Air Force Reserve colonel who has served as a critical care nurse and nurse educator in civilian life.

She said someone in the medical field might make the connection, but a mechanic out on the flight line may not associate their problem with their active duty service. "Hope-

fully their civilian physician will," said the Operation Desert Storm veteran. "However, they may not because the civilian community doesn't have the same access or understanding of military medicine as the military physicians do."

More than anything in risk communications is the need to communicate the risk of post-deployment, immunizations, medications and medical procedures for reserve component personnel, Woody said.

"We need to drill it down, not just to the commanders and down to the troops, but we need to reach out to the communities and civilian medical providers," Woody pointed out. "The whole gist is to get the information

***medical benefits continued page 15***



### *Clinic aims to please*

The members of the 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron realize the frustration everyone goes through when their birth month comes around and it's time for the annual physical. Physicals begin with the blood tests – that means fasting from the night before until the bloodwork is done. Bummer. According to Senior Airman Mandy Gard, a member of the 302nd ASTS and president of the Wing Junior Enlisted Advisory Council, there is now an AAFES-approved coffee kiosk available in the pharmacy area where the fast can be broken after the bloodwork is done. "The viability of keeping the kiosk open during the unit training assemblies is in the testing stage," said Gard.

"This has been a great service that the 302nd Airlift Wing can enjoy and it has really improved morale," said Senior Master Sgt. Trina Pharr, 302nd ASTS.

### *Black Heritage meeting*

The Black Heritage Month Celebration planning meeting is noon, Oct. 6 at the Aragon Dining Hall, Bldg. 1160. The meeting is open to all 302nd Airlift Wing and 310th Space Group members and their dependents.

The theme is "Developing a Legacy of Promise in the 21st Century."

Please come to the meeting with suggestions for a guest speaker, activities, and events that can be used to support the theme for Black History Month.

### *Nose art to continue*

Through the logistics channels, word has come down that the display of "Let's Roll" nose art on USAF aircraft is extended indefinitely. The nose art was scheduled to be removed by Sep. 30. The feeling conveyed is the nose art is one way for the Air Force to pay tribute to the victims of the Sep. 11 terrorist acts and to celebrate America's spirit.

### *Retention Tidbits - "A Good Year"*

Do you know what "a good year toward retirement" is? A year in which you earn 50 points between your R/R dates. R/R stands for Retirement/Retention date. The R/R date is unique to each individual. It is generally determined by the date you are gained as a Reserve asset. It can be affected if you have a complete break in service. To find out what your R/R date is, ask your orderly room or MPF customer service. You can also find out by checking your annual points summary, or by visiting the Virtual MPF at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil) (then click on the vMPF icon).

It only takes 20 "good years" to earn a retirement from the AF Reserve. How do you earn those 50 points? Annual tour day: 1 point per day. UTA day: 2 points per day. Manday, School Tour: 1 point per day. RMP/TP: 1 point. Free Points: You get 15 gratuitous points every year for belonging to the Reserve.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Timothy Wilson, wing career advisor, at (719) 556-7702.

### *NCOLDP*

The October Non-Commissioned Officer Leadership Development Program is already underway, but signups have started for the next class and the first class of 2003 on March 31 – April 11. All E-3 through E-7 wing members in an annual tour or school tour status are eligible.. Go to your supervisor or commander and request they nominate you for the class. Nominators can email [William.miller@302.peterson.af.mil](mailto:William.miller@302.peterson.af.mil) or [Louise.Rasmussen@302.peterson.af.mil](mailto:Louise.Rasmussen@302.peterson.af.mil). Wing Education and Training Office, 556-7250.

### *Honor Guard positions open*

The High Frontier has two slots to work full-time according to Tech. Sgt. Melissa Stahl, NCOIC, High Frontier Honor Guard. They have been given approval to start at 179 days, with an initial probationary period that will lead to further support once completed.

"Based in Colorado Springs and in existence since 1994, the High Frontier Honor Guard is an all-volunteer force divided into four teams of approximately 90 highly motivated and professional enlisted members and officers," said Stahl.

The prime responsibility of the Honor Guard is to perform final military funeral honors for retirees, veterans, and active duty Air Force members. There is also the support for special events such as rifle exhibitions, retirements, parades, cordons, and flag presentations.

"This is great duty," said Maj. Cynthia Rivera Prestgard, 302nd Military Personnel Flight commander. "For those of you interested, ensure you coordinate with your chain of command and get approval before applying," said Rivera Prestgard. She also said that all applicants must understand that while on mandays, unit training assemblies and annual tours must still be performed.

For more information, contact Stahl at 556-8228.

### *OJT Records Class*

The Supervisor's OJT Records documentation class will be held on Sunday, Oct. 6, 8-10 a.m.

To reserve your seat please call wing training at 556-7573/7250.



# Quarterly NCO award winner credits mentors

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton  
*Front Range Flyer*

Reservists walking into the customer service section of the 302nd Military Personnel Flight will notice numerous awards next to the counter where Staff Sgt. Lissy Slezak works.

Slezak's last award came on active duty in October 1999 when she was named Airman of the Year while serving with the 10th Medical Group at the United States Air Force Academy. She joined the 302nd AW in August 2000, and now has another award to add to her collection. Slezak has been named Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2002.

Slezak credits her career as an Air Force personnel specialist and the many mentors she's had through the years for her success. "My dad advised me the personnel career field would provide the most opportunity for education and the best chance to achieve my career goals," Slezak said.

Her immediate supervisor, Tech. Sgt.

Tony Garcia, Chief, Customer Service helped reemphasize that philosophy.

"If it wasn't for him looking out for my career and making sure I attended every class possible to advance my military opportunities," Slezak said, "this award would not have been possible. A lot of what I know I attribute to him as a mentor."

A stay at home mother with a two-year old daughter, Vanessa, Slezak still finds time to take math classes and pursue a bachelor's degree in social work. "I would like to pursue a master's degree in the future, but that's a long way off, and too early to think about right now," said Slezak. "My daughter takes up a lot of my time."

Slezak has five years active-duty time and two years with the Air Force Reserve.

"I'll keep serving as long as I can," said Slezak. "Keeping personnel records up-to-date and taking care of people is something I enjoy."

Slezak also serves as the secretary to the Junior Enlisted Advisory council, a newly formed organization designed to address



**Staff Sgt. Lissy Slezak**

concerns of junior enlisted members and to help solve problems, improve morale, and increase retention within the wing.

## Top airman 'born' for the military; ready for tomorrow

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton  
*Front Range Flyer*

Senior Airman Mandy Gard, 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron, is Airman of the Quarter, third quarter 2002. It's an award that puts her on the fast track to achieving her career goals.

"I was born for the military," said Gard. "When I was young I would not play with my dolls unless my parents bought me a tank or an airplane to go with them. I would tell my mother I want to be part of the infancy division," she said.

"I didn't realize at the early age the correct term was infantry division. By sixth grade I knew I wanted to attend the Air Force Academy."

She also wanted to gain an appreciation for what it was like to be an enlisted member of the military and joined the 302nd Airlift Wing in February 2001 after two years of active duty at the Academy in the medical career field.

"I'm EMT-qualified and assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of immunizations for the clinic," said Gard. "Eventually I would like to return to active

duty, and pursue a career as an Air Force officer. I would like to return to the Air Force Academy as an instructor. I like the curriculum there."

A senior at the University of Southern Colorado, Gard's studies include a dual major in sociology and geography with additional courses including physics and environmental sciences.

"Most of my course completion is through correspondence," Gard said. Her hobbies include hiking, bike riding, traveling and photography.

"I've probably spent more money developing film than my camera is worth," Gard said. "I've traveled through Europe and attended Junior High School while living in England."

Gard is most known throughout the wing for work with the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council, a council established to address concerns and meet the needs of the junior enlisted members within the unit. Gard is the newly appointed president of the organization, and was selected during an inaugural meeting held July 13.

"My real name is Amanda, but I prefer Mandy," Gard said. "I'm only Amanda when I'm in trouble."



**Senior Airman Mandy Gard**

# Unit Training Assembly Schedule\*

October 5-6

Time	Activity	Location	OPR/Ext.
<b>Saturday</b>			
0530 - 1000	Breakfast is served	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
0600 - 0730	"Jump Start" Fellowship	Sandy's Restaurant	HC/6-4006
0900 - 1000	Monthly UTM Training	Bldg. 895 Room 204	DPMT/6-7249
1000 - 1100	First Sergeants Meeting	Large Conference Room	CCC/6-8132
1100 - 1730	Let's Do Lunch!	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
1100 - 1230	"Lunch & A Lift"	Aragon Colorado Room	HC/6-4006
1200 - 1600	CWD Training Refresher	Bldg. 1324	CEX/6-7221
1245 - 1600	CDC/PME Test **	Bldg. 895 Room 204	DPMT/6-7250
1300 - 1600	Chaplains Available	Bldg. 893 Room 143	HC/6-4006
1530 - 1600	Suicide Prevention	Bldg. 893 Conference Room	SG/6-1132
1600 - 1700	Catholic Confession	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
1700 - 1800	Catholic Mass	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
2000 - 2300	Late Night Snack/Carry Out	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
<b>Sunday</b>			
0530 - 1000	Breakfast is served	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
0815 - 0915	Protestant Liturgy	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
0830 - 0930	Chiefs' Meeting	Aragon Dining Facility	CCC/6-8132
0830 - 0930	Catholic CCD	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
0830 - 0930	MPF (3S0) In-House Training	Bldg. 895 Room 204	DPM/6-7227
0930 - 1030	Catholic Mass	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
1100 - 1200	Protestant Service	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
1100 - 1730	Let's Do Lunch!	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
1230 - 1330	Protestant Gospel Service	Bldg. 1410 PAFB Chapel	HC/6-4006
1200 - 1300	Protestant Worship	Bldg. 893, Room 125	HC/6-4006
1245 - 1600	CDC/PME Testing	Bldg. 895 Room 204	DPMT/6-7250
1400 - 1500	Med. Liaison & Ancillary Mtg.	302nd AW Conference Room	WTPC/6-7250
2000 - 2300	Late Night Snack/Carry Out	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001

\* Schedule is subject to last minute changes. \*\* Military ID cards are MANDATORY for ALL testing. For CDC end-of-course exams, a testing authorization letter is also MANDATORY. Testing authorization letters will be obtained from the respective Unit Training Manager/Monitor.

\*\*\*Disregard hours posted on the door (do not take UTAs into consideration). Doors will be unlocked.

## Congratulations Promotees

### Lieutenant Colonel

Gary Carlton  
Kevin Cavanagh  
Burton Chapman  
Charles Chapman  
Charlton English  
Lisa Fisk  
Terri Kett  
Guy Morely  
Lawrence Norton  
Wade Prather  
Clancy Preston  
Edward Strickland  
James Thomas

### Captain

Brian Barker  
Beverly Benson  
Steven Combs  
Daniel Fennessy  
Martha Finnen  
Marie Freeman  
Steven Hart  
Heather Hutto  
Bernadette Javier  
Thomas Lang  
David Lehrman  
Richard Osmanson  
Christie Pier

### Captain (continued)

Michael Savage  
Ryan Scofield

### Senior Master Sergeant

Janine Cragin

### Master Sergeant

Heldwin Brito  
Joseph Paradiso  
Richard Wagner  
George Laforce  
Dawn Cherry  
James Willoughby  
Randy Kind

### Technical Sergeant

Scott Frost  
Christie Clark  
Linda Cunningham  
Charlie Huffman  
Manuel Ortega  
Ruben Reyes  
Miltiadis Drakoploulas  
Nicholas Kundert  
Sharon Rice  
Kim Singleton  
Rodney Dailey  
Bobby Alexander  
Jorge Talamantes  
Jeannette Fike  
Tammy Gettman  
Stacy Koch

### Staff Sergeant

Jenni Deylius  
William Kellums  
Herbert Seifert  
Barbara Clark  
Cameron Roland  
David Brown  
Samuel Alexander  
Adrian Mata

### Senior Airman

Jesse Anderson  
Alan Schulz  
Christopher Crump  
Jerri Tubbs



# Welcome Wing Newcomers

## 302nd Operations Group

Captain Michelle Quinn

## 731st Airlift Squadron

MSgt John Eichenberg  
Major Christopher Padbury  
Major Patrick Mingus

## 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

A1C Liana Chavez  
SrA Karen Laura  
A1C Kerrie Marquez  
A1C Melinda McClendon  
SrA Gloria Miller  
SSgt Daniela Ohlberg  
A1C Corina Rayas  
SrA William Rodriguez  
A1C Antawn Keller

## 302nd Logistic Support Squadron

TSgt Kenneth Feathers

## 302nd Mission Support Squadron

A1C Ruth Ann Altman  
A1C Hope Clark-Vasquez  
A1C Eric Kinnard  
SrA Jason Baldwin  
A1C Rodney Brophy  
A1C Beatrice Cervantes  
A1C Samuel Franco  
A1C Steven Fresquez  
A1C Matthew Garcia  
SrA Matthew Nansel  
SSgt Brian Reed  
A1C Brendon Sucher  
A1C Isaiah Lechowit

## 302nd Operations Support Flight

A1C Jonathan Lind

## 302nd Security Forces Squadron

A1C Joseph Jones  
A1C James Ralph

## 310th Space Group

2nd Lt Robert Mahler  
Captain Elijah Ricca  
SSgt Wayne Smith  
SSgt Joshua Burdick  
A1C Benjamin Heuberger  
Captain Thomas Kelkenberg  
1st Lt Allan Widic  
Captain Kyle Albert  
SSgt Samuel Alexander  
SSgt Jerry Simmons

## 310th Security Forces Squadron

1st Lt James Benvenuto

## 39th Aerial Port Squadron

A1C Kelly Bartholomew  
A1C Teresa Davis  
SSgt David Montano

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### *medical benefits continued from page 11*

out to people who need to be sensitive to reserve members in the areas they're deploying to. And, we need to ensure that reservists know what their benefits are."

Reserve component personnel are only entitled to military medical or dental care for any injury, illness or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty. That includes travel to and from military duties. But they must be tested to ensure the injury, illness or disease happened while they were on active duty, the colonel noted.

"But, for example, if you feel that your illness is related to your deployment, you can ask for evaluation and treatment of that medical condition. You don't have to be in an active duty status to do that," Woody explained. "Often the reserve member doesn't know that. And it's very important for commanders to know the process and pass the information on to their troops."

One example of this ignorance occurred during the anthrax immunization program. "Many of our reservists were getting the anthrax immunization during their weekend duty and returning to their communities," she said. "They didn't know that one of the

common reactions to the vaccine is the nodule. And, many of the civilian physicians didn't know nodules are common to the anthrax vaccine."

Consequently, she said, some physicians put patients on antibiotics, while others lanced the nodule. "They didn't know that in time the nodule would resolve itself," the colonel said.

"It has been quite a challenge to get information about anthrax down to the lowest level," Woody said. "There are a lot of issues that reserve component members had with the anthrax vaccine, especially our pilots and air crew members."

"When they're finished with their deployment, all they want to do is to go home - back to the reserve community and their jobs," she noted. "So they're probably not going to report or be aware of a lot of things that happen post-deployment."

She told the audience about the dilemma of a soldier who was in Somalia before the Army Rangers. He had emotional problems and a hard time focusing. The soldier didn't know where to go for help or what resources were available after he returned home.

"He had to be referred to Veterans Affairs for treatment," Woody said. "So it's important to get information to the command level so the commander can provide guidance to people."

## Our confidence is well-placed



President George W. Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld attend the 9-11 ceremony at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. (Photo courtesy of the White House)

*Editor's note: The following remarks were made by President Bush during an observance of Sept. 11 at the Pentagon.*

**"I came to the Presidency with respect for all who wear America's uniform. Every day as your Commander in Chief, my respect and that of our nation has deepened. I have great confidence in every man and woman who wears the uniform of the United States of America.**

**"... Wherever our military is sent in the world, you bring hope and justice and promise of a better day. You are worthy of the traditions you represent, the uniform you wear, the ideals you serve. America is counting on you. And our confidence is well placed."**

## Tips for returning home

⇒ Plan on spending some time with the entire family doing family things, but be flexible if teens have other plans.

⇒ Show interest and pleasure in how your family members have grown and mastered new skills in your absence and let them know you are proud of them. Comment on positive changes.

⇒ Expect it will take a little time to become re-acquainted with your spouse. Be sure to tell them just how much you care about them.

⇒ Resist the temptation to criticize. Remember that your spouse has been doing her or his best to run the household single-handedly and care for the children while you were gone.

⇒ Take time to understand how your family may have changed during the separation. Go easy on child discipline—get to know what new rules your spouse may have set before you jump into enforcing the household rules.

⇒ Don't be surprised if some family members are a bit resentful of your deployment. Others often think of the deployment as more fun and exciting than staying at home— even if you know otherwise.

⇒ Infants and small children may be shy or even fearful around you at first. Be patient and give them time to become reacquainted.

⇒ Resist the temptation to go on a spending spree to celebrate your return. The extra money saved during deployment may be needed later for unexpected household expenses.

⇒ Most importantly, make time to talk with your loved ones. Your spouse and each child need individual time and attention from you. Remember, focus on the positives and avoid criticism.

(Courtesy, 302nd Family Readiness)

### West Nile Virus strikes

The West Nile Virus infected the first human in Colorado recently, so everyone should be cautious.

If you see a dead bird or any dead animal on Peterson AFB:

1. Keep your distance
2. Call base entomology at 556-7754. You will talk to Tech. Sgt. Seeman or Airman Morse. Give them good directions to the location of the animal and mark the location if it is difficult to find. It is suggested you keep a record of when you called entomology.

If you have questions, contact Master Sgt. Bob Smith in the 302nd Airlift Wing safety office at 556-8163.

302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs  
860 Malmstrom St., Ste 138  
Peterson AFB, CO 80914-1179

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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FIRST CLASS MAIL  
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